

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO†

### EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

Vol. XVI, No. 6, June, 1918

#### EXCERPTS FROM EDITORIAL NOTES

*An Imperative Appeal for Medical Officers.*—An urgent and imperative appeal has just been issued, by the Surgeon General of the United States Army, for doctors for the Medical Reserve Corps.

There are today [June, 1918] 15,174 officers of the Medical Reserve Corps on active duty, and the Medical Department has reached the limit of medical officers at the present time available for assignment. With these facts before the medical profession of this country, we believe that every doctor who is physically qualified for service between the age of 21 and 55 years, will come forward now and apply for a commission in the Medical Reserve Corps.

The Surgeon General says: "So far the United States has been involved only in the preparatory phase of this war. We are now about to enter upon the active or fighting phase, which will make enormous demands upon the resources of the country." The conservation of these resources, especially that of manpower, depends entirely upon an adequate medical service. . . .

*How to Obtain Commission.*—Such questions as doctors, seeking to enlist in the Medical Service of the Army or Navy, are likely to ask, are answered in the comprehensive questionnaire which is being sent out by the Medical Section of the Council of National Defense. The questionnaire is subdivided into sections relating to both Army and Navy, to Army only, to Navy only, and to the Regular Army. . . .

#### Pay and Term of Service

(16) Q. For what length of time do I volunteer?

A. In the Army, five years.

(17) Q. What pay do officers receive?

A. Lieutenant, \$2,000; captain, \$2,400; major, \$3,000; plus 10 per cent for foreign service. Under the new act just signed by the President, if quarters are not available as a place of abode for wife, child, or dependent parent, each commissioned officer of the Army shall also be paid commutation at the rate authorized by law—first lieutenant, \$432; captain, \$576; major, \$720.

(18) Q. What are the expenses for field service?

A. From \$25 to \$50 per month.

(19) Q. How many medical officers were on active duty April 26, 1918?

A.

#### Army

Regular Medical Corps.....	843
Medical Reserve Corps.....	16,359
Medical Corps, National Guard.....	1,204
Medical Corps, National Army.....	111

(20) Q. What is the average number of physicians in each thousand discharged from the Medical Reserve Corps of the Army, and for what reasons?

A. Physical disability, 31; inaptitude, 13; domestic and community needs, 4; deaths, 3; resignations, 10. . . .

*Stand Behind the Boys.*—How many doctors have appeared this now very expressive phrase to themselves? (Continued in Front Advertising Section, Page 26)

† This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association activities some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members.

## BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

By F. N. SCATENA, M. D.

Secretary-Treasurer

#### News

"The Attorney General ruled today that a physician may not operate a liquor cure establishment under a fictitious name, and that it is not legal for a corporation, using a fictitious name, to hire a physician as its manager. The opinion, to the Board of Medical Examiners in Sacramento, said that under the law a corporation cannot practice medicine or surgery directly or indirectly, hence it cannot get a license to practice." (Los Angeles Times, April 23, 1943.)

"To be commissioned in the California State Guard, a physician must have a license to practice in California, Attorney General Kenny ruled yesterday." (Sacramento Union, April 9, 1943.)

"The Assembly today, by a vote of 57 to 11, passed and sent to the Senate a bill providing that only a doctor of medicine may hold the office of State Director of Public Health. The bill, which was vigorously opposed by the California Osteopathic Association as a discriminatory measure, specifically restricts the office to a medical doctor for the first time in history. None but a doctor of medicine, however, had ever held the post." (San Francisco Examiner, April 13, 1943.)

"The Senate refused, 18 to 8, to pass Senate Bill 589 by Senator Jack B. Tenny of Los Angeles County, empowering the Board of Medical Examiners to revoke the license of a physician who aids or engages in unlawful acts against government." (Sacramento Bee, April 22, 1943.)

"The assembly public health committee refused to give a final passage approval to Senate Bill 1077, Jespersen, which would have created a self-sustaining board of naturopathic examiners of five members appointed by the Governor. The bill was opposed by Benjamin Read, representing the California Medical Association." (Sacramento Bee, May 4, 1943.)

"The growing importance of women in war, reflected in their help on the home front, and as noncombatant auxiliaries in the fighting forces, has received added recognition in the bill, passed by Congress and signed by the President, authorizing the employment of women physicians in the medical corps of the Army and Navy." (Fresno Bee, April 21, 1943.)

"Robert T. Church, 52, of Gridley, Butte County, arrested here last night, was returned to Lodi, San Joaquin County, today to face three charges of violating the business and professions code. J. W. Williams, special agent for the State Medical Board, said Church treated individuals for foot ailments. He also was served with (Continued in Back Advertising Section, Page 40)

† The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising, page 6. News items are submitted by the Secretary of the Board.